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10/734,863

12/12/2003

Daniel S. Poplawski

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10/14/2004

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EXAMINER

ABRAMS, NEIL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 10/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/734,863

Applicant(s)

POPLAWSKI ET AL.

Examiner

Neil Abrams

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 30-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 30-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent case paragraph, for first S.N. "now abandoned" must be added.

Claims 30-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harding in view of Sakamoto (Europe 228278).

Block, Kaufman, Wakabayashi, IBM, Leiby, Yingst, Parmer and Matsushita.

Harding discloses a system with receptacle 7 and a housing with circuit board 21, optical contacts 4 and latch 15, 16, the housing and receptacle being for mating with each other.

It would have been obvious to form the Harding housing with grounding portion in view of IBM at 5, 6 and Kaufman at 86 to help eliminate static as connectors are joined.

Also obvious to form Harding housing with dual optical transmitting and receiving means of type ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> shown by block at 331, 332 <sup>^</sup> by Yingst at 70, 71, 191, 190, etc, fig. 2. These would be equivalent to that of Harding at 4 but are used to show "details" of such structure. Should latch feature be at issue, also obvious to use latch of Yingst type at 16, 17, shown in greater detail.

Also obvious to form housing 1 with board edge connector in view of Parmer at 54, 62, 64 (Fig. 2) and to use a receptacle with appropriate mating contacts as in Parmer at 24, 26 and to include a ground tab in view of Sakamoto at 15 and Kaufman at 83. This would only be use of standard features for providing shorter signal path and static removal. Use of mating board edge with receptacle in Harding further suggested by Wakabayashi, fig. 10 at 551, CN11.

Also obvious to form the housing 1 circuit board with advanced grounds in view of Matsushita at 5, fig. 1 for ~~for~~ additional static removal.

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The Harding system so formed would perform during insertion in the manner recited in claim 30, lines 24-46.


Claims 31, 32 relate to standard features. Also obvious to use such type diodes in view of Lebby, see cols. 5, 6.

Claim 33 <sup>feature</sup> met by IBM teachings.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Neil Abrams at telephone number (571)272-2089.

Abrams/ds

10/04/04

  
NEIL ABRAMS  
EXAMINER  
ART UNIT 322